

To the Right Honourable the LORDS
Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament
assembled,

The Case of Dame MARY, Baroness of
Mordington,

SHEWETH,

THAT the said Lady was lawfully married on the 16th Day of November 1704, to the present Lord *Mordington*; and a Marriage-Settlement was made on that occasion about Fifteen Years ago, being obliged thereto by a Bill filed in *Chancery* against his Lordship for that purpose; and they cohabited together accordingly for some time:

THAT his Lordship, without any Cause given him by his said Lady, about Three Years after the said Marriage, was pleased, first to discontinue to live with his said Lady, and afterwards to deny his said Marriage: And when she was obliged to apply to the Government for a Pension for her Subsistence, he opposed the same, and misrepresented Matters to the then Ministry. But the late Lord *Godolphin*, then Lord High Treasurer, after examining into the matter, (which was done by his Lordship's Order to Counsellor *Borrett*, then Solicitor of the Treasury (a Copy of whose Report is hereunto annexed;) who finding both the Marriage, and Settlement to be as above set forth, the late Queen was graciously pleased to settle a Yearly Allowance upon the said Lady.

THAT the Lord *Mordington*, about Four Years since, or upwards, became acquainted with one *Catherine Lander* in *Oxfordshire*, with whom he hath lived ever since; and the said Mrs. *Lander*, on pretence of being married to his Lordship, takes upon her the Name and Title of Baroness of *Mordington*; and she, and her said Lord (to shelter themselves against the Law, by colour of a Lawful Marriage) deny the first said Marriage to the said Lady: And not only so, but endeavour to take away her Life, as well as Character, by employing divers Persons to insult, mob, abuse and affront her; and keep and detain her in Goal, as in the Petition, now before your Lordships is set forth.

THAT likewise, to impose upon your Lordships, it was alleg'd, that the reason she was detained in Prison, was, because she could not prove her Marriage, notwithstanding it was prov'd in the *Marshalsea*-Court by Three several Witnesses.

THAT the annex'd Petition was some time since presented to this Most Honourable House; but the Earl of *Abingdon*, at the Instance of the Lord *Mordington*, and Mrs. *Lander*'s Mother (formerly an Inn-keeper, and Tenant of the said Lord *Abingdon*) oppos'd the same: Upon which, the late Bishop of *Bristol* being sensible of your Petitioner's Oppression and Injury, took upon him to wait on the said Earl of *Abingdon*, and to undeceive him, as to the said pretended Marriage; and for that purpose had the Copies of the Certificates and Papers that were before the Treasury, put into his Hands; but the said Bishop happen'd soon after to die, before any thing was attempted.

THAT the Petitioner hath since applied to the said Lord *Abingdon*, touching the Premises; but finds him to be too much impos'd on by the said Lord *Mordington* and Mrs. *Lander*, to give any Ear to the Petitioner's Complaint.

THAT the said Lord *Mordington*, by his pretended Marriage to Mrs. *Lander*, and the illegitimate Issue between them, will not only destroy the Petitioner's Reputation and Honour; but introduce a spurious Offspring into one of the most renown'd and most

most antient Families in Scotland, and preclude the Honourable Charles Douglass, Esq; the lawful Brother, presumptive and apparent Heir to the said Lord Mordington, or his Issue, from the just Right of Inheritance to the said Honour and Estate; as may appear by his Letters to the Earl of Abingdon, and to some of the Scots Nobility (Sitting Members) of this Most Honourable House.

WHEREFORE, and for that the said Charles Douglass, for Defence of his just Right (if the said Lord Mordington should die without lawful Issue) doth join with the Petitioner in this Complaint,

It is humbly pray'd, that your Lordships will please to summons the said Lord Mordington to attend your Lordships, and answer the Premises; and that your Lordships will, upon hearing Counsel on both sides, make such Order as your Lordships shall deem just.

A COPY



A COPY of the REPORT given in to the
TREASURY.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Godolphin,
Lord High Treasurer of Great Britain.

MY LORD,

I N Obedience to your Lordships Commands, I have inspected into the Allegations which are mentioned in my Lord Mordington's Letter to your Lordship; and do find that he is not only lawfully married, but also has made Settlements of Three hundred Pounds per Year, in the Hands of Trustees, upon the said Lady, who, as I find, is very much abused; and I do assure your Lordship, that I am thoroughly satisfied that every individual Paragraph of his Lordship's Letter is perfidious, which your Lordship may plainly see by the annex'd, Certificates and Papers: Which is what offers at present from,

MY LORD,

Dec. 13.
1709.

Your Lordship's most Humble and Obedient Servant to command,

WILLIAM BORRET, Solicitor of the Treasury.

A COPY of CHARLES CHEVALIER, Esq; his CERTIFICATE, (now one of the Clerks of the Exchequer)

THESE are to certify whom it may concern, That I have by me in my Custody, the Deeds of Settlement, executed by Lord Mordington to Lady Mary, his Wife.

CHARLES CHEVALIER.

March 6, 1715.

CASE
OF THE
E

Lady Mary Mordington.

A COPY of the REPORT given to the
TREASURY

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Godolphin,
Lord High Treasurer of Great Britain.

My Lord,
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the account of the late Lady Mary Mordington, which I have the pleasure to enclose herewith. I have also the pleasure to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

My Lord,

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant,
WILLIAM BORETT, Solicitor-General.



A COPY of CHARLES CHEVALIER, Esq;
one of the Clerks of the Exchequer.

THESE are to certify, that I have been employed by the Exchequer to examine the accounts of the late Lady Mary Mordington, and to report thereon to the Treasury.

CHARLES CHEVALIER.

March 6, 1711.